

FLOWSTATE BARS

USER GUIDE

A plain-English guide to getting a cleaner chart without turning this into a science project.

LESS NOISE. MORE CLARITY. FIND YOUR FLOW.

Here is the whole idea...

Regular bars show nearly every little wiggle. Flow State Bars calm down some of that visual chatter so the movement that matters is easier to see.

FOCUS

The standard clean view. It helps you stay oriented without reacting to every small price wiggle.

SUPER FOCUS

A different response that follows meaningful movement more closely while still filtering noise.

VELOCITY

Optional adaptive speed. It helps the bars react faster when the market starts moving quickly, then settle back toward your chosen Focus as activity calms down.

1. What Flow State Bars Actually Do

Same market. Cleaner perspective. No secret sauce required.

Markets wiggle. A lot. Regular price bars faithfully display those wiggles, but not every wiggle deserves your attention.

Flow State Bars reduce visual noise so direction, slowing movement and important transitions are easier to recognize.

THINK OF A DIRTY WINDSHIELD

Cleaning the glass does not change the road. It simply makes the road easier to see. Flow State Bars work the same way: the market does not change, but the view becomes easier to read.

What they do not do

Flow State Bars are not a magic buy/sell signal and they do not predict the future. They are a chart-reading tool designed to reduce distraction.

IMPORTANT: THE TRADE MARKER SHOWS THE REAL FILL

A Flow State candle is a filtered visual price. Your order still fills at the real market price. That is why an execution marker may appear slightly above or below a Flow State candle. The marker is correct.

ONE CHART, TWO JOBS

Use Flow State Bars to read the market more clearly. Use the execution marker and order ticket to see the actual traded price.

2. The Focus Number

The main control for smoothness versus responsiveness.

Think of Focus like a camera setting. You can make the picture calmer, or you can make it react faster.

HIGHER FOCUS	LOWER FOCUS
Cleaner and smoother Removes more small back-and-forth movement. Trade-off: the bars may react a little later.	Faster and closer Follows current movement more closely. Trade-off: more market noise can return.

A good starting point

Focus 20 is the standard clean starting point. Lower it if the bars feel too slow. Raise it if the bars feel too busy. There is no single perfect number for every trader, market or timeframe.

MAKE SMALL CHANGES

Try 20, then 16, 12, 10 or 8. Change one setting at a time and watch several market swings before deciding what feels best.

YOUR WORKSPACES ALREADY INCLUDE PRESETS

Every Algo Trader workspace ships with Flow State Bars already configured for that system. You can use the preset exactly as provided or adjust it to fit your own eyes and trading style.

3. Mode 1 vs. Mode 2

Two different Flow State responses. Neither is automatically better.

MODE 1 - FOCUS

The standard Flow State response. It removes everyday chart noise and helps you stay on the right side of the larger move.

Think: "Show me the cleaner direction."

MODE 2 - SUPER FOCUS

A different response that generally follows meaningful price movement more closely while still filtering noise.

Think: "Track the move more tightly."

The Focus number still matters

Mode chooses the type of response. Focus chooses how smooth or responsive that response should be. Mode 1 at Focus 20 and Mode 2 at Focus 20 are two different views using the same Focus number.

SIMPLE RULE

Choose Mode 1 when you want the traditional clean Flow State view. Choose Mode 2 when you want the bars to maintain a closer connection to important price movement.

DO NOT CONFUSE MODE WITH VELOCITY

Mode changes the character of the bars. Velocity is a separate optional feature that changes how quickly the selected mode adapts when market movement speeds up.

4. How to Enter Mode and Focus

Mode and Focus share one field in the updated version.

The Data Series field is labeled Mode / Focus (1/20 = 1020). Enter Mode first, followed by the Focus number.

THE SIMPLE FORMULA

Mode 1 + Focus 20 = 1020 | Mode 2 + Focus 16 = 2016

WHAT YOU WANT	ENTER	WHAT IT MEANS
Focus 20	1020	Mode 1 + Focus 20
Focus 10	1010	Mode 1 + Focus 10
Super Focus 20	2020	Mode 2 + Focus 20
Super Focus 16	2016	Mode 2 + Focus 16
Super Focus 8	2008	Mode 2 + Focus 8

WATCH THE LEADING NUMBER

A value beginning with 1 selects Mode 1. A value beginning with 2 selects Mode 2. The remaining digits are the Focus setting.

5. Velocity

Optional adaptive speed for faster market movement.

Velocity helps the selected Flow State mode react faster when price movement accelerates. When activity calms down, the bars gradually return toward your chosen Focus.

VELOCITY IS OFF BY DEFAULT

Enter 1 in the Velocity field when you want Mode and Focus to control the bars without Velocity changing their speed.

Turning Velocity on

Velocity uses two lengths: a short length and a long length. The short length watches recent movement. The long length provides the slower baseline for comparison.

LENGTHS	ENTER	GENERAL FEEL
6 / 12	6012	Fast and sensitive
6 / 16	6016	Fast recent check with a steadier baseline
9 / 30	9030	Slower and more stable
12 / 30	12030	Less sensitive to short bursts

LOWER LENGTHS

React faster to changing movement, but may introduce more activity into the bars.

HIGHER LENGTHS

React more slowly and steadily, but may take longer to adjust to a sudden move.

6. Set Up the Updated Bars

Everything is controlled from NinjaTrader Data Series.

USING AN ALGO TRADER WORKSPACE?

Flow State Bars are already included and preset. You do not need to rebuild the settings. Start with the workspace as provided, then adjust only if you prefer a different look.

- 1 Open Data Series. Right-click the chart and choose Data Series.
- 2 Select the bar type. Choose Flow State Time or Flow State Second.
- 3 Set Minutes or Seconds. This controls the duration of each bar.
- 4 Enter Mode / Focus. Example: 1020 means Mode 1, Focus 20.
- 5 Set Velocity. Enter 1 for Off, or an encoded pair such as 6012 for 6/12.
- 6 Click Apply or OK. Let the chart rebuild before comparing the result.

GIVE NINJATRADER A MOMENT

Changing a bar-type setting causes historical bars to rebuild. Wait until the chart finishes loading before deciding whether the setting changed the appearance.

7. Quick Tuning Guide

If the chart does something you do not like, start here.

IF YOU NOTICE...	TRY THIS...
The bars feel too slow	Lower Focus a little
The bars feel too noisy	Raise Focus a little
You want the traditional clean view	Use Mode 1
You want closer tracking	Try Mode 2
You want no adaptive speed	Set Velocity to 1
You want faster adaptation	Try Velocity 6012 or 6016
Velocity feels too active	Use higher lengths or turn it off

START WITH THE WORKSPACE PRESET

The preset is there for a reason. Learn how it behaves before changing it. If you adjust anything, change one setting at a time so you can see exactly what that setting did.

Final reminder: Flow State Bars are a visual charting tool. They do not replace your trading plan, risk management or judgment.